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RIPARIAN HEALTH DISTRICT OF BRIKHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1960

RIPARIAN HEALTH DISTRICT OF BRIXHAM

This Report is drawn up in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health contained in Circulars 33/52 and 16/55, and follows the arrangement detailed in Form Port 20.

SECTION 1 - STAFF

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
J.Wildman	Medical Officer of Health	1958	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond).	Medical Officer of Health for Paignton & Borough of Dartmouth.
M.Durham-Watson	Public Health Inspector	1958	-	Housing Manager Explosives & Petroleum Inspector.
H.P.Humpherson	Rodent Operator & Disinfector (part-time)	1953	-	Part-time Rodent Operator Borough of Dartmouth.

Local Office: Public Health Department, Town Hall, Brixham. Tel: Brixham 2206
Clerk (part-time) to the Public Health Inspector, Mrs. Michelmore.

Central Office - Medical Officer of Health:

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices, Oldway, Paignton.

Telephone: OFFICE: 82214.
Home: Brixham 3113.

Medical Officer's Clerk: Mrs. S.Beaumont, Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices, Oldway, Paignton. Telephone: 82214 Extn. 59.

SECTION II - AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING

THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage (Nett)	<u>Number Inspected</u>		Number of ships reported as having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer Of Health	By the Public Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports	237	50,514	Nil	Nil	Nil
Coastwise	586	192,489	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL:	823	243,003	Nil	Nil	Nil

These figures do not include Liners calling for Pilots, as these Liners do not encroach on the Harbour Limits.

SECTION III - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND

TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic	(Number of Passengers INWARDS - Nil ((Number of Passengers OUTWARDS - Nil
Cargo Traffic	(Principal IMPORTS - Diesel Oil ((Principal EXPORTS - Oil, Limestone
Principal Ports from which ships arrived in 1960: Casablanca, Antwerp, Dunkirk, St. Malo, Sydney, Far Eastern Ports, Mediterranean Ports.	

SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There are no canals or inland waterways and consequently there is no inland barge traffic in the area.

SECTION V - WATER SUPPLY

(1) Source of supply for (a) the District and (b) Shipping.

(a) A bulk supply of Moorland Water is obtained from Paignton Urban District Council, and this is augmented from the Laywell Spring situated in Higher Brixham. The Laywell water is treated by chlorination and storing.

(b) The port is supplied by seven standpipes and/or hydrants on the harbour quays and Victoria Break-water.

(2) Reports of tests for contamination.

Frequent samples are taken for bacteriological examination both from the reservoirs and from taps served by the main. The reports indicate that the supply falls in Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's classification.

(3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

The standpipes are situated between two and three feet above ground; the hydrants are flushed out before water is used and any hose pipes are likewise flushed through with clean water before use.

(4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats.

SECTION VI - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS)

REGULATIONS, 1952

(1) List of infected areas. (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure in supplying it to those persons.

A weekly Epidemiological Record supplied by the World Health Organisation is received at the Brixham Town Hall. The information therein is transmitted to the local office H.M.Customs.

(2) Radio Messages.

- (a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the District. (Regulation 13).

The Post Office will make the necessary arrangements for transmission of wireless messages, if required.

- (b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships, and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Radio messages from ships are received by the local shipping agents by telephone through Niton and Lands End Radio Stations. The shipping agents contact the Medical Officer of Health.

- (3) Notification otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)). Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

The Coastguard Station on Berry Head receives all communications by semaphore, morse, and international code of signals. The message is then passed on to the Medical Officer of Health.

- (4) Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30) - Situation of Stations, and any other standing directions issued under these Regulations.

A quarantine anchorage is available near the entrance to Brixham Harbour. The exact location of the anchorage is marked on charts in the possession of H.M. Customs and the Harbour Master.

(5) Arrangements for:-

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious cases (other than Smallpox - see Section VII).

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Torbay Hospital Annexe.

- (b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts.

This is undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector.



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- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

By arrangement with the Torquay Public Health Department the cleansing of persons, clothing and other articles would be carried out at their cleansing station. The disinfection of any quarters aboard ship would be carried out by the Rodent Operator.

SECTION VII - SMALLPOX

- (1) Name of Isolation Hospital to which Smallpox cases are sent from the District.

Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital, Nr. Exeter.
Telephone: Stoke Cannon 207.

- (2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the crews.

Arrangements are made by telephone message to the Resident Physician at Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter (Telephone: Exeter 67158). The vehicle is supplied by Exeter City Health Department, and is staffed by the hospital. All members of the crew are vaccinated regularly.

- (3) Names of Smallpox Consultants available.

The Consultants are:-

Dr. D.F. Johnstone, The Isolation Hospital, Plymouth.
Telephone: Plymouth 51437/8 Home: Plymouth 73896.

Dr. W.A. Lister, 7 The Crescent, Plymouth.
Telephone: Plymouth 5701.

- (4) Facilities for Laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox.

Specimens are sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory, (Virus Reference), Colindale, Hendon, London, N.W.4. Telephone: Colindale 7041.

SECTION VIII - VENEREAL DISEASE

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to mariners.

Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease amongst ships crew are available in clinics at the Torbay Hospital, Torquay at the following times:-

Men	-	Mondays	-	5 to 6.30 p.m.
Women	-	Thursdays	-	5 to 6.30 p.m.

In-patient treatment would be made available in the first instance at the Torbay Hospital Annexe.

The above information is made known by posters in public conveniences and in leaflets available for distribution amongst ships' crew.

SECTION IX - CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	No. of cases during the year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ports.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

A short account should be given of the measures taken on the arrival by ship of (a) any case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus, or relapsing fever included in Table D; (b) any suspected case of any such disease.

Nil.

SECTION X - OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE
OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

Nil.

SECTION XI - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS
INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

Nil.

SECTION XII - MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS
FROM FOREIGN PORTS

- (1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

The Public Health Inspector makes enquiries of masters of ships as to the presence of, or undue mortality among rats. He also inspects ships, quays, wharves and stores at regular intervals for signs of the presence of rats.

- (2) Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological examination of rodents with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

These examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter.
Telephone: Exeter 54959. No rodents were sent for examination.

- (3) Arrangements in the District for de-ratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Arrangements are made for this service to be carried out at Plymouth.

- (4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

This has not been required owing to the limited nature of shipping entering the port.

TABLE E

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>
Black rats	Nil
Brown rats	Nil
Species not known	Nil
Sent for examination	Nil
Infected with plague	Nil

TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Brixham is not an approved port under Article 52 of the International Sanitary Regulations.

SECTION XIII - INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G

Inspections and Notices

Nature and number of inspections	Notices	Served	Result of
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	serving Notices
General	Nil		
TOTAL	Nil		

SECTION XIV - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH)

REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948

Information respecting any shellfish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

There are no shellfish beds or layings within the area.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

NAME	DATE
1	1900
2	1901
3	1902
4	1903
5	1904
6	1905
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SECTION XV - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Brixham is not a port approved under the Aliens Order, 1920.

SECTION XVI - MISCELLANEOUS

Arrangement for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

The bodies of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease would be conveyed to the Council's mortuary in Bolton Street whilst arrangements were made for interment or cremation. Any necessary precautions would be taken according to the type of disease.

Cases of illness treated aboard ship or ashore

3 Mariners were landed at Brixham to receive medical or surgical treatment as summarised below:-

<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Type of illness or injury</u>
Dutch (1)	Appendicitis (died in hospital).
Eire (1)	Scalds.
French (1)	Haemorrhage.
<u>Treated on board ship.</u>	
Belgian (3)	Influenza
Spanish (1)	Head injury.

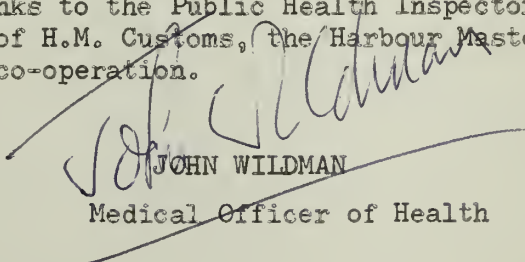
In December a radio telegram from a liner was received giving notice of one case of Infective Hepatitis aboard ship. The case was not landed at Brixham when the ship called for a Pilot the next day, but remained aboard. The Port of London Health Authority were informed by telephone because the ship was bound for Tilbury.

Torbay Lifeboat

The Torbay Lifeboat is stationed at Brixham.

I wish to express my thanks to the Public Health Inspector for his assistance, and to the Officers of H.M. Customs, the Harbour Master and the local shipping agents for their co-operation.

March, 1961.


JOHN WILDMAN
Medical Officer of Health

